

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method for providing particularized credit to a user in an electronic content distribution system that implements a network, the method comprising:

receiving an identifier for a given read only optical storage medium through the network, the identifier indicating that the given read only optical storage medium contains a particular content; and

providing a particular credit to the user based upon receipt of the identifier, wherein, upon the redemption of the particular credit, is usable for receiving a copy of the particular content is received through the electronic content distribution system.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the particular content includes a musical work.

3. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the particular content includes a musical compilation comprising a plurality of musical works.

4. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the identifier is a digital fingerprint that identifies the given read only optical storage medium.

5. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the given read only optical storage medium is a compact disc.

6. (original) The method of claim 5, wherein the network is an Internet.

7. (original) The method of claim 6, wherein the particular content includes a musical work.

8. (original) The method of claim 6, wherein the particular content includes a musical compilation comprising a plurality of musical works.

9. (original) The method of claim 7, wherein the electronic content distribution system downloads the musical work to the user pursuant to a transaction including a redemption of the particular credit by the user.

10. (original) The method of claim 7, wherein the electronic content distribution system streams the musical work to the user pursuant to a transaction including the redemption of the particular credit by the user.

11. (currently amended) An apparatus for providing particularized credit to a user in an electronic content distribution system that implements a network, the apparatus comprising:

means for receiving an identifier for a given read only optical storage medium through the network, the identifier indicating that the given read only optical storage medium contains a particular content; and

means for providing a particular credit to the user based upon receipt of the identifier, wherein, upon the redemption of the particular credit, is usable for receiving a copy of the particular content is received through the electronic content distribution system.

12. (original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the identifier is a digital fingerprint that identifies the given read only optical storage medium.

13. (original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the given read only optical storage medium is a compact disc.

14. (original) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the particular content includes a musical work.

15. (original) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the particular content includes a musical compilation comprising a plurality of musical works.

16. (original) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the electronic content distribution system downloads the musical work to the user through an Internet connection pursuant to a transaction including a redemption of the particular credit by the user.

17. (original) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the electronic content distribution system streams the musical work to the user through an Internet connection pursuant to a transaction including a redemption of the particular credit by the user.

18. (currently amended) A system for providing particularized credit to a user in an electronic content distribution system that implements a network, the system comprising:

a processor; and

a memory, in operative communication with the processor, that stores instructions that are executed by the processor to effectuate receiving an identifier for a given

read only optical storage medium through the network, the identifier indicating that the given read only optical storage medium contains a particular content, and providing a particular credit to the user based upon receipt of the identifier, wherein, upon redemption of the particular credit, is usable for receiving a copy of the particular content is received through the electronic content distribution system.

19. (original) The system of claim 18, wherein the identifier is a digital fingerprint that identifies the given read only optical storage medium.

20. (original) The system of claim 18, wherein the given read only optical storage medium is a compact disc.

21. (original) The system of claim 18, wherein the particular content includes a musical work.

22. (original) The system of claim 20, wherein the particular content includes a musical compilation comprising a plurality of musical works.

23. (original) The system of claim 21, wherein the electronic content distribution system downloads the musical work to the user through an Internet connection pursuant to a transaction including a redemption of the particular credit by the user.

24. (original) The system of claim 21, wherein the electronic content distribution system streams the musical work to the user through an Internet connection pursuant to a transaction including a redemption of the particular credit by the user.

25-51. (canceled)